

Nevada State Veterans Home
100 Veterans Memorial Drive
Boulder City, Nevada 89005
(702) 332-6784 • Fax (702) 332-6762

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor



Department of Veterans Services
6900 N. Pecos Road, Room
1C237
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89086
(702) 224-6025 • Fax (702) 224-6927

Northern Nevada
Veterans Memorial Cemetery
P.O. Box 1919
Fernley, Nevada 89408
(775) 575-4441 • Fax (775) 575-5713

STATE OF NEVADA
**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS SERVICES**
5460 Reno Corporate Drive, Suite 131
Reno, Nevada 89511
(775) 688-1653 • Fax (775) 688-1656

Southern Nevada
Veterans Memorial Cemetery
1900 Veterans Memorial Drive
Boulder City, Nevada 89005
(702) 486-5920 • Fax (702) 486-5923

Minutes

Name of Organization: **Women Veterans Advisory Committee (WVAC)**

Date and Time of Meeting: **August 15, 2014 (9am-12pm)**

Meeting Location: **VBA Conference Room**

Members of the public were able to participate in person at the Veterans Benefits Administration Building, 5460 Reno Corporate Dr. Reno, NV 89511 or Veterans Benefits Administration Office 6900 N. Pecos Rd. N. Las Vegas, NV 89086

***Call to Order**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Davis calls meeting to order at 9:12 am due to video teleconference connection issues.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Deputy Director Gerald

ROLL CALL: Yvonne Betron calls roll for official members.

Members present include: Anne Davis, Roberta Pike-Oates, Anthoneal Newman, Sharlee Smith

Committee member Leslie Ellis-Wouters was excused.

Non-council members present during Roll Call include: Yvonne Betron, Kat Miller, Willette Gerald and Carol Simenson.

Members of the public in attendance: none

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Motion to approve agenda: Roberta Pike-Oates moved to approve agenda with changes, Sharlee Smith seconded. Agenda was approved with changes by unanimous decision.

Motion to approve previous minutes: Roberta Pike-Oates moved to approve 7/23/14 minutes. Sharlee Smith seconded. Minutes approved by unanimous decision.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Review and approval of recommendations list provided by committee members for inclusion in the interim report to the Governor.

Chairman Davis opened the floor for discussion of the items on the list recommended by members of the committee for inclusion in the interim report to the Governor.

1. Recommendation for the Women Veterans Program Coordinator in the Nevada Department of Veterans Services be funded as a full-time position was voted on and approved at the 7/23 meeting.
2. Recommendation that the Women Veterans Advisory Committee (WVAC) be codified in statute as a sub-committee of the Veterans Services Committee (VSC). Request a minimum of 7 members two of which represent the state from rural and frontier areas. A member of the committee would then be represented on the VSC. Roberta Pike-Oates moved to approve this recommendation and Anthoneal Newman seconded. This recommendation approved by unanimous decision.
3. Recommendation that funding continue for the Nevada Department of Veterans Services to develop software and an information systems database to gather data from any available information source to identify where veterans are located throughout the state to ensure that veterans (to include women veterans) are informed about benefits and opportunities that they may be eligible for. Also that the WVAC create a women veterans strategic communication plan to continue to locate women veterans. Roberta Pike-Oates moved to approve this recommendation and Anthoneal Newman seconded. This recommendation approved by unanimous decision.

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4. Recommendation that State of Nevada agencies that collect veteran data add "Have you ever served in the United States Military?" to their forms/applications, at the next update, instead of "Are you a veteran?" to assist in gathering information from veterans that might not self identify as a veteran.
5. Recommendation that the Governor encourage initiatives with the Veterans Administration to provide tele-health programs for Women Veterans in rural areas. Roberta Pike-Oates moved to approve this recommendation and Anthoneal Newman seconded. This recommendation approved by unanimous decision.
6. Recommendation that the Governor work with the Veterans Administration Southern Nevada Health Care System to fund a full time Obstetrician/Gynecologist. Anthoneal Newman moved to approve this recommendation and Roberta Pike-Oates seconded. This recommendation approved by unanimous decision.
7. Recommendation that Nevada Department of Veterans Services develop a white paper in collaboration with the Women Veterans Advisory Committee containing women veteran specific information to send to legislators. Roberta Pike-Oates moved to approve this recommendation and Anthoneal Newman seconded. This recommendation approved by unanimous decision.
8. The Women Veteran Advisory Committee endorses the efforts of the Nevada System of Higher Education in developing veterans programs and centers in Nevada to support Nevada Veterans.

Once recommendations for the interim report were approved and finalized, the committee discussed possible agenda items for future meetings.

NEXT MEETING:

Next meeting is set for September 3, 2014 from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Davis made a motion to adjourn, Charley Smith seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.